GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:337
ANSWERED ON:14.08.2007
POLICE REFORMS
Aaron Rashid Shri J.M.;Mishra Dr. Rajesh Kumar;Rawale Shri Mohan;Sajjan Kumar Shri ;Singh Shri Ganesh

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the police has failed to maintain the law and order situation during the last many decades resulting in increased incidents of looting and killing of people;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether a meeting was held on 30.12.2006 under the Chairmanship of Union Home Minister with Chief Ministers of States and Administrators of Union Territories on the recommendations made by various Committees/Commissions set up by the Government on Police Reforms;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof and the steps taken by the Government to improve the situation of law and order in the country;

(e) whether the Government has any proposal to bring new Bill on Police Reforms; and

(f) if so, the time by when this Bill is likely to be brought in?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL)

(a) & (b) 'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects under the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India and therefore, the State Governments are primarily responsible for maintenance of law and order and providing security to the life and property of the people in their respective States. However, the Central Government has been providing financial assistance and technical support to the State Governments in terms of modern weaponary, mobility, communication equipment and also intelligence inputs to effectively counter security related challenges.

(c) & (d) Yes, Sir. In the meeting, there was broad consensus in favour of pursuing further police reforms which were already under consideration and implementation and the need for bringing a new legislation on police by the States.

(e) & (f) Ministry of Home Affairs had set up an expert Committee to draft a new Police Act in September, 2005. The draft Model Police Act submitted by the Committee was sent to all States/Union Territories for consideration and appropriate action as 'Police' is a State subject. As for the Union Territories, the Ministry is considering enactment of a new legislation in place of existing enactments at the earliest possible, however, it is not possible to indicate a definite timeframe in this regard.